

Message Text

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ACTION INR-11

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2407

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C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 5971

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR, EC

SUBJECT: BIO INFORMATION ON WIVES OF FOREIGN MINISTER AND UN
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

REF: STATE 195823

1. WIFE OF ANTONIO JOSE LUCIO PAREDES, RUTH, IS BRAZILIAN-
BORN, SISTER OF HELIO FERNANDES, REPORTED IN 1972 TO BE THE
OWNER OF EXTREME RIGHTWING BRAZILIAN NEWSPAPER TRIBUNA DA
IMPrensa. SHE SPEAKS GOOD ENGLISH AND EXCELLENT SPANISH
WITH A SLIGHT PORTUGUESE ACCENT. SHE IS SAID TO SPEAK
EXCELLENT FRENCH. SHE HAS PROMOTED AND ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED
IN A PROGRAM OF ENGLISH STUDY FOR FONMIN WIVES WHICH WAS
ORIGINALLY SPONSORED BY BRITISH EMBASSY BUT WHICH IN LAST
SIX MONTHS HAS BEEN SUPPORTED BY USIS AT HER REQUEST.

2. THE LUCIO PAREDES' HAVE TWO SONS AND A DAUGHTER. THE
ELDEST CHILD, IN HIS EARLY TWENTIES, IS A DEAF MUTE. HE HAS
TALENT AS A PAINTER, AND THE PARENTS HAVE WORKED HARD TO
ENCOURAGE ITS DEVELOPMENT. THEY HAVE BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN
HAVING THEIR SON'S WORK EXHIBITED BOTH HERE AND ABROAD
AND INCLUDED AT THE LAST MINUTE IN AN IMPORTANT
EXHIBITION OF CONTEMPORARY ECUADOREAN PAINTERS (INCLUDING
GUAYASAMIN) SCHEDULED FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER IN SAN
FRANCISCO. THE DAUGHTER, IN HER LATE TEENS, WORKS PART-
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TIME IN A TRAVEL AGENCY.

3. PROBABLY AS A RESULT OF HER SON'S AFFLICTION, RUTH DE LUCIO PAREDES HAS A STRONG INTEREST IN THE TRAINING OF TEACHERS SPECIALIZED IN THE INSTRUCTION OF DEAF MUTES AS WELL AS IN PAINTING. SHE IS FRIENDLY AND SEEMINGLY WELL-DISPOSED TO AMERICANS, EXTROVERTED, OUTSPOKEN, AND WITH A GOOD SENSE OF HUMOR. SHE IS ATTRACTIVE IN APPEARANCE AND APPROXIMATELY 45 YEARS OLD.

4. THE WIFE OF LEOPOLDO BENITEZ VINUEZA IS THE FORMER MARGARITA (MARGOT OR FANNY, ACCORDING TO SOME REPORTS) SIERRA, A RATHER RETIRING WOMAN WITH WHOM HE HAS TWO SONS, ONE A CIVIL ENGINEER WHO STUDIED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA.

5. THE BENITEZ' ARE NOT KNOWN TO PERSONNEL PRESENTLY IN THE EMBASSY, AND THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THE ABOVE PARAGRAPH ON SRA DE BENITEZ IS ALL THAT IS AVAILABLE ON HER IN THE EXTENSIVE SERIES OF BIO REPORTS AVAILABLE HERE WHICH HAVE BEEN COMPILED ON BENITEZ SINCE 1946. PERHAPS USUN, WHERE BENITEZ HAS SERVED SINCE 1960, COULD SUPPLY FURTHER INFORMATION.

6. AS REPORTED QUITO 5450, THE LUCIO PAREDES WILL NOT ATTEND THE 29TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY.
BREWSTER

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